

ADDITIONAL FEE:

Please charge any insufficiency of fee, or credit any excess, to Deposit Account No. 50-0427.

R E M A R K S

The Office Action issued October 18, 2004 has been received and its contents have been carefully considered.

The allowance of claims 1-7, 9-13, 15-22 and 24-26 and the provisional allowance of claims 14 and 23 is noted with appreciation.


Claim 8 has been canceled and claims 14 and 23 have been amended in the manner kindly suggested by the Examiner.

Also, the typographical error on page 13 of the specification has been corrected.

Submitted herewith are replacement sheets for the sheets 1 and 3 of the drawings. As required by the Examiner and the Official Draftsman of the U.S. PTO, the various blocks in these sheets have been provided with labels. The Examiner's approval of these replacements sheets is respectfully requested.

Since all of the informalities noted by the Examiner have been overcome by this Amendment, this application is believed to be in condition for immediate allowance.

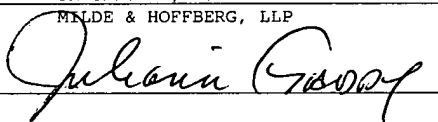
Respectfully submitted,

By 
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I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Services as first class mail in an envelope addressed to: Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450 on

JANUARY 12, 2005
MILDE & HOFFBERG, LLP
By 
Date JANUARY 12, 2005